

King County Conservation Futures Advisory Committee

MINUTES

Wednesday, January 8, 2020

4:30 PM – 7:45 PM

Mercer Island Community and Event Center

1. Welcome – Terry Lavender

Terry opened the meeting with a round of introductions. Terry reviewed membership renewal and recruitment status.

2. Approval of Minutes of November 13, 2019 Meeting

The minutes of the November 13, 2019 meeting were approved as distributed by email in late December.

3. Update on 2020 Closings

Ingrid reviewed highlights of 2019 acquisitions by King County and cities using CFT.

4. Carbon Credits & King County 30-Year Forest Plan – Kathleen Farley Wolf, King County Forestry Program

Powerpoint presentation reviewing the King County carbon credit program (including the county's rural program and a partner city forest credit program), and the King County 30-year forest plan (kingcounty.gov/ForestPlan).

5. Department of Local Services Update – John Taylor, King County Dept of Local Services
Powerpoint presentation providing an overview of the Department of Local Services' functions and priorities, as they serve rural and urban unincorporated King County.

6. WRIA Overview – Jason Wilkinson, Suzanna Smith, WRIA 8 and 9 staff

Powerpoint presentation reviewing Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) lead entities, which regionally coordinate salmon recovery strategies and funding to help restore salmon habitat and populations. Reviewed salmon population status and restoration project examples in each King County watershed.

7. Governance/Leadership – Molly, Corrie

By-laws typically are expected for county advisory committee. Corrie reviewed key points in the draft by-laws. The Committee edited Section 2, page 3. Draft will be edited and returned to the Committee for a vote at a later date.

A vote was taken to elect Terry Lavender as chair and Mark Johnsen as vice-chair.

8. Policy Topics – Terry, Ingrid

- a. Match waiver process report-out

- Recent review of last year's process by a few members of CFT Committee and Equity Cabinet supported the approaches taken last year (e.g. with regard to use of conditional match waiver, separating linked projects)
 - Community engagement is expected, and applicants will be asked to demonstrate it through letters and discussion.
 - Application notes that applicants may be asked about how their jurisdiction is working to avoid potential displacement of residents.
 - 2020 project review will again have a few members of CFT Committee and Equity Cabinet collaborate to make recommendations back to CFT Committee on which projects should receive a match waiver.
- b. Buy and holds
- Terry noted that by the time an agency comes to the Committee with a buy-and-hold opportunity for acquisition, the proposal should be viewed as a proposal being advocated for by the agency (not the land trust).
- c. Off-leash dog parks
- Discussion of formal dog parks included potential negative impacts to natural resources, whether it's an appropriate use within the 15% limit or at all.
 - Ingrid noted that discussion with attorney and review of policies suggest it is not an appropriate use under CFT. Most of committee indicated agreement.
- d. Nonprofit eligibility/wherewithal
- Committee supported proposal that nonprofit eligibility would be determined by a county staff team and Committee chair(s), reviewing nonprofit mission/by-laws against the state and county eligibility definitions.
 - Wherewithal will also be a factor to consider in awarding funds.
- e. Conversions reporting process
- Ingrid explained that there is a new requirement that conversions be reported in the annual project progress report. (Conversions are where the owner of CFT-funded land proposes to remove the CFT restrictions on land in order to use it for a non-eligible purpose. The owner works with the county to evaluate the cost of the land proposed for removal, and provides cash or replacement lands.)

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

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Attendance

Ken Brunner	Conservation Futures Advisory Committee
Tiffany Chan	“ “
Catherine Gockel	“ “
Molly Graham	“ “
Leah Grant (phone)	“ “
Mark R. Johnsen	“ “
Terry Lavender	“ “
Keith Livingston	“ “
Courtney Naumann	“ “
Chuck Paulsen	“ “
Cil Pierce	“ “
Andrew Schmid	“ “
Corrie Watterson	“ “

Ingrid Lundin, King County DNRP

Ana Unpingco, “ “

Linda Holecek, “ “

Kathleen Farley Wolf, “ “

Suzanna Smith, “ “

Jason Wilkinson, “ “

John Taylor, King County Department of Local Services